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Rural District Council of Bromsgrove

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and -the
Chief Public Health Inspector
for the year

1972

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BROMSGROVE
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR 1972

Chairman of the Council	J.C. BEECH ESQ.
Vice-Chairman of the Council	E.G. CASH ESQ.
Chairman of the Public Health Committee	A.H. HODGETTS ESQ.

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Medical Officer of Health	M.JOAN CASH, M.R.C.S.,L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,M.F.C.M.(from 14/2/72)
Chief Public Health Inspector	P.P. CHAMINGS, F.A.P.H.I. (Cert.Meat and Foods Inspector)
Deputy Public Health Inspector	R.F. ROBINS, M.A.P.H.I. (Cert.Meat and Foods Inspector)
Assistant Public Health Inspector	K.J. SMITH
Clerks	MISS S. POTTER MISS J. TAYLOR (until 4/4/72) MRS. P.K. BROWN (from 19/6/72)

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the health of the Rural District for the Year 1972.

Before the next Annual Report comes out the title of Medical Officer of Health will have ceased to exist. On April 1st 1974 all medical personnel employed by local government will be transferred to the Area Health Authority. In due course a "proper" Medical Officer will be appointed for each district council to do the work of the Medical Officer of Health and liaise with the environmental health department. This will be a Community Physician, in all probability on the staff of the Area Health Authority.

Statistics

During 1972 the population of the Rural District dropped very slightly although the rateable value increased.

The birth rate fell in common with the rest of the Country and is now below the pre-war level.

The death rate remains fairly stationary and is below the rate for England and Wales as a whole. The main cause of death is still circulatory disease and almost half the deaths from this cause were due to coronary heart disease although there were fewer cases of this disease in 1972. Deaths from cancer have dropped slightly but still represent more than one quarter of the deaths in the district. There were 8 accidental deaths during the year, three of these being motor accidents. There was also one suicide.

The infant mortality rate is very low indeed, being only a third of the average for the country. There were 3 infant deaths during the year mainly from unavoidable causes. There were again no maternal deaths and all the statistics in respect of mothers and babies are a great deal more favourable than for the Country as a whole. These figures are often taken as an index of the health of a Community and I certainly think it is a tribute to a very excellent maternity service.

There was a noticeable reduction in notifications of infectious diseases, mainly due to only a small number of measles cases. On the other hand, we had several isolated cases of dysentery and food poisoning, although I am glad to say there was no widespread outbreak.

I am very grateful for the help and co-operation extended by all officers and staff and especially those in the Health Department. We are indeed fortunate in having such a pleasant and relatively healthy district in which to work.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

M. JOAN CASH

Medical Officer of Health

SECTION A
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres 45,071

Registrar General's estimate of resident population	Mid 1972 - 36,320 Mid 1971 - 36,430 Mid 1947 - 25,230 Mid 1937 - 19,260
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book	End of 1972 - 12,354 End of 1971 - 12,173 End of 1970 - 12,037 End of 1969 - 11,896 End of 1947 - 7,798 End of 1937 - 6,645
Rateable Value 1st April 1972	£1,622,047
Sum represented by a New Penny Rate at 1st April 1972	£16,500

POPULATION OF PARISHES

	<u>Estimated</u>	
	<u>1939</u>	<u>1972</u>
Alvechurch	3,236	6,120
Belbroughton	2,676	2,550
Bentley Pauncefoot	344	320
Beoley	770	790
Clent	1,943	2,400
Cofton Hackett	3,736	2,080
Dodford-with-Grafton	513	620
Frankley	184	140
Hagley	2,223	5,800
Hunnington	543	650
Romsley	1,070	1,800
Stoke Prior	2,130	2,900
Tutnall & Cobley	697	900
Wythall	4,482	9,250
	24,557	36,320

Average per house 2.92

VITAL STATISTICS

(1971 figures in brackets)

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	M	F	Total
Legitimate	249 (259)	216 (238)	465 (497)
Illegitimate	16 (12)	9 (16)	25 (28)
	<u>265 (271)</u>	<u>225 (254)</u>	<u>490 (525)</u>

Birth Rate (Births per 1,000 population)

	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1972 Eng. Wales</u>
Crude	13.5	14.5	15.10	16.40	14.1	14.8 (16.0)
Comparability Factor	1.05	0.93	0.93	0.93		
Standardised	14.2	13.5	14.00	15.30		

Illegitimacy Rate (total live illegitimate births per hundred total Live Births)

<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1937</u>
5.00	5.00	3.18	3.60	3.20

STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	4	6 (5)
Illegitimate	-	-	- (-)
	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6 (5)</u>

Still Birth Rate (Still births per 1,000 total live and still births)

<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1972 Eng. Wales</u>
12.00	9.00	5.27	8.11	38.1	12.00 (12.00)

DEATHS

M	F	Total
176 (170)	144 (151)	320 (321)

DEATH RATE (Deaths per 1,000 population)

	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1972 Eng. Wales</u>
Crude	8.80	8.9	7.8	9.1	11.1	12.1 (11.6)
Comparability						
Factor	1.17	1.12	1.12	1.10		
Standardised	10.30	10.00	8.7	10.00		

Major Causes of Death (Percentages of Total Deaths)

	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>
Disease of the Circulatory System	43.06%	52.9%	43.6%	46.6%	44.9%
Malignant Diseases	26.25%	21.80%	27.5%	16.9%	21.2%
Respiratory Diseases (excluding T.B.)	12.19%	12.1%	12.4%	13.6%	14½7%

MATERNAL DEATHS

Maternal Mortality (Maternal Deaths per 1,000 total live and still births)

<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1972 Eng. Wales</u>
NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	0.15 (0.17)

INFANT AND NEONATAL DEATHS

Infant Deaths (under 1 year of age)

	M	F	Total
Legitimate	2	1	3 (14)
Illegitimate	-	-	- (-)
	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3 (14)</u>

Neonatal Deaths (under 4 weeks of age)

	M	F	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2 (10)
Illegitimate	-	-	- (-)
	1	1	2 (10)

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

Legitimate	1	1	2 (8)
Illegitimate	-	-	- (-)
	1	1	2 (8)

Infant and Neonatal Mortality Rates

	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1972 Eng. Wales</u>
Deaths of legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	6.00	28.0	16.41	15.28	17.0
Deaths of illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	-	-	-	-	21.0
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age per 1000 total live births	4.00	19.0	14.13	13.09	12.0
Deaths of infants under 1 yr. of age per 1000 total live births	6.00	27.0	15.9	14.73	17.0
Still births and deaths under 1 wk. combined per 1000 total live and still births	16.00	25.0	15.9	21.10	22.0
Deaths of infants under 1 wk. of age per 1000 live births	4.00	15.0	10.60	13.09	10.0

Cause of Infant Deaths

Prematurity	2
Respiratory Disease	1

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT

1972

Causes of Death		M	F	Total	Mortality Rate per 1,000 pop.
B4	Enteritis & other Diarrhoeal Diseases	1	-	1	.03
B18	Other infective & Parasitic Diseases	1	-	1	.03
B19(1)	Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity Etc.	1	-	1	.03
B19(2)	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	-	1	.03
B19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	5	2	7	.19
B19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	4	8	12	.33
B19(6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus	14	1	15	.41
B19(7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	6	6	.16
B19(8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	3	3	.08
B19(9)	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	5	-	5	.13
B19(10)	Leukaemia	1	-	1	.03
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	11	12	23	.63
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	3	1	4	.11
B23	Anaemias	-	2	2	.06
B46(1)	Other Endocrine etc., Diseases	-	1	1	.03
B46(5)	Other diseases of Nervous System	3	1	4	.11
B46(4)	Multiple Sclerosis	-	1	1	.03
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	5	6	.16
B27	Hypertensive Disease	2	4	6	.16
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	49	27	76	2.09
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	5	12	17	.46
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	17	25	42	1.15
B46(6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	5	5	10	.27
B31	Influenza	-	1	1	.03
B32	Pneumonia	15	6	21	.58
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	11	4	15	.41
B46(7)	Other diseases of Respiratory System	2	1	3	.08
B34	Peptic Ulcer	4	1	5	.13
B36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	2	2	4	.11
B37	Cirrhosis of Liver	-	1	1	.03
B46(8)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	3	2	5	.13
B38	Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1	.03
B39	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1	.03
B46(10)	Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	1	-	1	.03
B46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	2	3	.08
B42	Congenital Anomalies	-	1	1	.03
B43	Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	1	-	1	.03
B44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1	1	.03
B45	Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	-	2	2	.06
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	1	3	.08
BE48	All other Accidents	4	1	5	.13
BE49	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	-	1	1	.03
TOTAL		176	144	320	10.30

SECTION B

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND

OTHER DISEASES

Protection against many Diseases is now available. Starting at six months of age babies are immunised against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, whooping cough and measles and this series is completed shortly after their first birthday. Although this is not compulsory well over 90% of parents avail themselves of the programme. At 11 years girls are offered protection against rubella (german measles) and at about 13-14 years every child is offered BCG inoculation against T.B. Smallpox vaccination is not offered as routine protection any more in accordance with Government policy. BCG Inoculation which gives protection against tuberculosis was carried out in secondary schools throughout the district, mainly to 13 year old children. Following a preliminary test negative reactors, i.e. those who have built up no resistance to the disease, are inoculated.

Notifiable Diseases 1972

DISEASE	Corrected Notifications
Smallpox	-
Diphtheria	-
Scarlet Fever	3
Measles	36
Whooping Cough	1
Typhoid Fever	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-
Dysentery	4
Cerebro-Spinal-Meningitis	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Acute Encephalitis	-
Erysipelas	-
Acute Pneumonia	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
Malaria	-
Food Poisoning	3
Infective Jaundice	2
TOTAL	51

Diphtheria Immunisation

The number of children immunised during the year was as follows:-

Primary Immunisation	408 (359)
Re-inforcing (Booster) injections	260 (426)

Measles

The number of children immunised during the year was as follows:-

Age at 31.12.72 i.e. Born in Year	Under 1 1972	1 1971	2 1970	3 1969	4 - 7 1965-68	8 - 16 1956-64	Total
	-	111	57	12	20	1	301

Rubella

The number of girls between the age of 11 and 14 years vaccinated during the year was:-

<u>G.P.</u>	<u>Clinic</u>	<u>Total</u>
11	188	199

Poliomyelitis

The number of children immunised during the year was as follows:-

Age at 31.12.72 i.e. Born in Year	Under 1 1972	1 1971	2 1970	3 1969	4-7 1965- 1968	8-16 1956- 1964	Total
Number immunised	7	336	50	4	6	5	408
Re-inforcing doses	-	1	17	1	221	12	252

Whooping Cough

Number of children who have completed a primary course (normally 3 injections) of pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) in the Authority's area during the year ended 31.12.72:-

Primary	358	(319)
Re-inforcing Doses	31	

Tetanus

Primary courses (usually given in combination with Diphtheria & Whooping Cough)	-	411
Re-inforcing doses (Booster at School entry)	-	308

Tuberculosis

Three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year.

The total number of registered cases was 33(51) as follows:-

	M	F	TOTAL
Pulmonary	16	15	31
Non-Pulmonary	1	1	2
	17	16	33

Tuberculosis is now able to be controlled by modern drugs and as well as being of shorter duration I am glad to say there are far less cases notified.

SECTION C

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

The County Council administers the antenatal, child welfare, school health, dental and specialist clinics, where much valuable work is done towards the preservation of the health of the community and the prevention of disease. Child Health Clinics are held as follows:-

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DAY AND TIME</u>
Alvechurch	The Village Hall Hopwood	1st and 3rd Wednesdays 2 p.m. 1st Tuesday
Belbroughton	The Church Hall	1st Monday 2.30 p.m.
Beoley	The Village Hall	3rd Wednesday 2.00 p.m.
Clent	The Parish Hall	2nd Monday 2.00 p.m.
Cofton Hackett	The Old Schools	2nd and 4th Tuesdays 2.00 p.m.
Hagley	The Parish Hall Old Dixonians Club Wassell Grove	Wednesday 2.00 p.m. 1st Monday 2.00 p.m.
Romsley	Church Hall	1st Thursday 2.00 p.m.
Stoke Prior	The Village Hall Finstall	1st Monday 2.00 p.m.
Wythall	The Clinic Silver Street	Monday 2.00 p.m.

The Family Planning Association holds both afternoon and evening sessions in Bromsgrove Clinic and other centres throughout the district.

Health Visitors, District Nurses and Midwives provided by the County Council are now organised under a District Supervisor of Nursing Services at the Smallwood Health Centre in Redditch and also in Kidderminster. All health visitors are attached to local general practitioners and this liaison is most useful.

(a) Hospital Services

The following hospitals were available to the residents of the district:

Infectious Disease	Hayley Green Hospital, Halesowen East Birmingham Fever Hospital, Birmingham
Tuberculosis	Hayley Green Sanatorium, Halesowen
Maternity	The General Hospital, Bromsgrove Mary Stevens Maternity Hospital, Stourbridge Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital, Stourport The Birmingham Maternity Hospital, Birmingham
Children's Diseases	Children's Hospital, Birmingham
Venereal Disease	General Hospital, Birmingham Royal Infirmary, Worcester.
Mental Illness	Barnsley Hall Mental Hospital, Bromsgrove Powick Mental Hospital, Malvern
Chest Surgery	Hill Top Hospital, Bromsgrove.
General	The General Hospital, Bromsgrove Bromsgrove Cottage Hospital Smallwood Hospital, Redditch
Aged Chronic Sick	The General Hospital, Bromsgrove

(b) Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological examinations were carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Royal Infirmary, Worcester. Chemical analysis of water and miscellaneous specimens was carried out by the County Laboratory at Worcester. I am indebted to the Directors of these Laboratories for their ready assistance and co-operation.

(c) Ambulance Service

This is provided by the County Council and the Rural District is served from depots at Bromsgrove and Redditch.

(d) Health Education

The Council contributes to the Central Council for Health Education. Health Education is carried out mainly by the County Council who employ a Health Education Officer.

(e) Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels services were continued in the Hagley, Stoke Prior and Wythall areas through the agency of the W.V.S. The total of meals delivered was as follows:-

Alvechurch	4363
Hagley	2503
Stoke Prior	1211
Wythall	2894

1. Sanitary Inspection of the Area

The Chief Public Health Inspector in his report gives details of the Sanitary Inspections carried out during the year.

2. Water Supply

The whole supply of main water in the District is now the responsibility of various statutory water undertakings.

Most of the houses in the district were supplied with main piped water supplies which were satisfactory in quality and quantity. There were still, however, a few dwellings and farm premises with only well water supplies. These well supplies were to a large extent unsatisfactory and householders were advised to boil the water before use.

Routine sampling of drinking water from the remaining private wells, springs and boreholes for bacteriological and chemical analysis was continued, 50% of the samples being bacteriologically unsatisfactory.

Sampling at source of main supplies was done by the Water Undertakings.

During the year the following extensions of mains were effected:-

The City of Birmingham Water Department	590	yards
East Worcestershire Waterworks Company	1,235	"
The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company	126	"
North West Worcestershire Water Board	2,587	"

The following was the position with regard to the schemes for water main extensions:-

Alvechurch

Bell Green Area

Approved in principle by Ministry of Housing and Local Government - in abeyance.

Stoke Prior

Upper Gambolds

In Abeyance.

3. Drainage and Sewerage

The following are the sewage disposal works situated in the District and operated by this Authority:

Alvechurch	Lye Bridge
Clent	Hossill Lane
Belbroughton	Weybridge
Hagley	Sweetpool Lane
Finntall	Pumping Station to Bromsgrove U.D.C.
Stoke Prior	Henbrook Disposal Works, Shaw Lane

Following is a summary with regard to the programme of capital works of the sewers and sewage disposal as recently considered by the Council:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Alvechurch	Grange Lane and Rowney Green	Work in hand.
	Bordesley area	Sewers will drain to Redditch where disposal facilities are adequate. As there is now sufficient sewer capacity to convey sewage from Bordesley area the scheme is included in the rolling programme of locally determined schemes for commencement during the present financial year. The scheme will be carried out under the supervision of the Surveyor.
	Bittell Road and Bittell Lane	Scheme included in rolling programme of locally determined schemes for commencement during present financial year.
Belbroughton	Reconstruction of disposal works, Weybridge	Included in preparatory programme. Scheme in course of preparation by Consulting Engineers and expenditure is expected to be "key sector".
	Wildmoor	Included in rolling programme of locally determined schemes subsequent to 1975. Scheme to be prepared by Surveyor. Development in the locality tends to be scattered and it will mean the construction of some lengths of unproductive sewer.
Clent	Broome Lane	Council to bear cost of constructing sewer at Broome Lane, pay conveyance and treatment charges on gallonage basis and contribute a share of loan charges on capital cost of providing a larger works. To be undertaken by Kidderminster R.D.C.
	Walton Pool	Included in rolling programme of locally determined schemes and in sewerage programme. Scheme to be prepared by Surveyor and scheduled to commence in 1974-75.
	Thicknall Lane	Included in rolling programme of locally determined schemes. Scheme to be prepared by Surveyor for commencement subsequent to 1975.

Dodford with Grafton	Sewerage and construction of disposal works	Expenditure will be "key sector"
Frankley	Reconstruction of old disposal works	Council have agreed in principle to carry out. Surveyor to prepare scheme.
Hagley	Improvements at Disposal Works	Work in hand.
Romsley	Romsley Hill	Included in rolling programme of locally determined schemes and in sewerage programme. Scheme to be prepared by Surveyor and scheduled to commence in 1973-1974.
Stoke Prior	Stoke Pound	Included in rolling programme of locally determined schemes. Scheme to be prepared by Surveyor for commencement subsequent to 1975.
Wythall	Inkford and Tanners Green	Included in rolling programme of locally determined schemes and scheduled to commence in 1973-74. Work will be undertaken under supervision of the Consulting Engineers.
	Gorsey Lane and Shawbrook	Work in hand

During the past eleven years the following schemes have been completed:-

Alvechurch	Lye Bridge disposal works, re-construction Bittell Road, sewerage of Village Area, sewerage of part of
Belbroughton	Fairfield village area, sewerage of Belbroughton village area, construction of storm overflow sewer.
Beoley	Holt End, sewerage and sewage disposal.
Clent	Field Lane, sewerage of (part) Horse Pasture, abolition of old broad irrigation system and sewerage to Hagley disposal works Newfield Road, relief sewer Belbroughton Lane - sewerage of six bungalows (minor scheme) Draining of Cross Keys Garage and adjoining Cafe (minor scheme)
Clent and Hagley	New outfall sewers to disposal works, including re-sewerage of Woodman Lane, Clent and re-construction of part of sewer off Middlefield Lane.
Frankley	M.5 service area, sewerage of
Hagley	Haybridge Avenue, sewerage of remainder of (minor scheme)
Hunnington	Trunk sewer from Illey Lane disposal works to trunk sewer of Upper Stour Main Drainage Authority.
Romsley	Dark Lane, sewerage of part of
Stoke Prior	Henbrook disposal works, re-construction of Astwood Lane, sewerage of (minor scheme) Whitford Bridge, sewerage of (minor scheme)
Wythall	Station Road and Alcester Road, sewerage of Peterbrook Road, Majors Green, small sewer extension (minor scheme)

Pail Emptying

The Pail emptying service was continued at weekly intervals in areas of the Parishes of Beoley, Frankley, Stoke Prior and Wythall.

A total of 50 households were served.

4. Public Cleansing

This service is administered by the Surveyor's Department. Domestic refuse is collected weekly in the built up areas of the District and fortnightly in the more rural areas. Cesspools are emptied free of charge three times a year.

SECTION D

HOUSING

As will be seen from figures under Section A of this report, the population of the district decreased by 110. At the end of the year there were 520 applicants on the Council's housing list compared with 489 at the end of 1971.

78 Council houses and flats were first let during the year, whilst 95 were built by private enterprise.

Details of action taken under the Housing and Public Health Acts are included in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION F

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Routine inspections of food premises were continued during the year and every effort was made to ensure clean and safe handling of foodstuffs. Further reference to the subject is made in the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report.

Food Poisoning

Three cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR

1972

To the Chairman and Members of the Bromsgrove Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

You will recall that 1972 was the last full year in which Mr. P.P. Chamings was your Chief Public Health Inspector and he having retired in March 1973, it falls to me to present the Report for 1972.

Improvements to houses occupied much of the time of the Department, and 72 applications for Discretionary Grant and 18 Standard Grants were approved during the year. Work was completed on 64 Discretionary Grants and 24 Standard Grants, a total of £47,590 being certified for payment.

Seven houses were represented as unfit and as a result four Demolition Orders and one Closing Order were made and two Undertakings were accepted.

Also the year was one of steady progress on all other fronts. Routine work proceeded with regard to meat inspection, all the animals slaughtered in the District being inspected. Likewise routine visits to food shops, cafes and public houses were carried out. Samples of cooked meats and ice-cream were submitted for bacteriological examination.

Some 138 complaints were received and investigated and necessary action taken, the various types of inspection being set out in the Report.

The Rodent Control Service was also satisfactorily maintained and Contracts entered into for farm and business premises.

I am sure Mr. Chamings would wish me to thank the Clerk and other Officers of the Council for their helpful co-operation at all times during his last year of service.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R.F. ROBINS

Acting Chief Public Health Inspector

COMPLAINTS

A total of 138 complaints were received during the year 1972, all of which were investigated and appropriate action taken.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following are the numbers and nature of Inspections made during the year:

Houses Inspected	795
Number of inspections and re-inspections of houses	1680
Visits re complaints and nuisances	138
Visits re Meat Inspection	313
Visits re Notifiable Diseases	41
Milk and Dairies	3
Piggeries	59
Schools	1
Factories and Workshops	15
Outworkers' Premises	-
Moveable Dwellings	155
Water Supply	32
Works in Progress	413
Drainage	442
Shops etc., (re unfit food)	9
Visits to shops and food premises	274
Rodent Control	72
Canal Boats	-
Outside Interviews	826
Verminous Premises	-
Miscellaneous	605
Offices and Shops	46
Animal Boarding Establishments	22
Total number of informal notices served during the year	65

HOUSING

1. Inspections of Dwelling houses during the year:

- | | |
|---|------|
| (i) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts | 795 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 1680 |
| (ii) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as unfit for human habitation | 7 |
| (iii) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) not found to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 25 |

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authorities or their Officers. 110

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

A. Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act 1957:-

- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs --
- (ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices
 - (a) by Owners -
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners -

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied --
- (ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices
 - (a) by Owners --
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners -

C. Proceedings under Sections 16 and 23 of the Housing Acts 1957:-

- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 4
- (ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure 16
- (iii) Number of Undertakings accepted under Section 16 2
- (iv) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made 1

General - Housing

Four Demolition Orders were made during the year. Sixteen sub-standard houses were demolished as a result of formal and informal action. One Closing Order was revoked after the premises had been brought up to a satisfactory standard.

Discretionary Grants

Applications were approved during the year for 72 houses as against 65 the previous year.

Work was completed at 64 houses and grants totalling £41,778 were certified for payment.

Standard Grants

Eighteen applications were approved during the year. Certificates for payment of grants totalling £5,812 were issued in respect of 24 houses.

Qualification Certificates

During the year 23 applications for Qualification Certificates were received. 26 Certificates were issued and 3 Certificates of Provisional Approval, including applications carried over from the previous year.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The Camping Club of Great Britain continued to maintain their holiday site at Romsley in a satisfactory manner.

Twenty-two licences in respect of a total of 337 caravans were in force during the year.

The Council owns and operates a site for gypsies at Houndsfield Lane, Wythall, where sites are provided for 12 caravans.

The Council owns and operates a residential caravan site at Wythye Heath, Wythall and at the end of the year all of the 98 plots were occupied.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk

As the District was in a "specified area" all milk sold to the public had to be under one of the authorised Special Designations and consequently no samples of non-designated milk were taken. It will be appreciated that a large percentage of the milk retailed in the District was bottled in other Authorities' areas where it was regularly sampled.

(b) Meat and other Foods

There are five licensed slaughterhouses in the District. All animals were inspected and this entailed some extra work at week-ends and in the evenings.

Following is a summary of the inspections and condemnations which took place:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs and Sheep	Pigs
Number Killed	305	-	8	1428	541
Number Inspected	305	-	8	1428	541
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	17	-	-	12	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	5 3%	-	-	.83%	.55%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-

Routine visits were made to food shops, cafes and public houses for the inspection of premises and examination of food stuffs and, in the main, conditions were reasonably satisfactory.

During the year 10 samples of various foodstuffs, including cooked meats, pies, sausages, etc., were taken from premises within the district and submitted for examination. In no case was the organism of salmonella or dysentery found.

The following is a summary of foodstuffs of various kinds which were condemned as unfit for human consumption at retail food premises during the year:-

1 cwt. 38 lbs	Carcase Meat	57 lbs	Assorted Canned Foods
2 cwts	Offal	21 cwts. 82 lbs.	Frozen Foods
11 lbs.	Canned Meat	(due to cabinet breakdown).	

- (c) Four complaints were investigated during the year with regard to foreign matter and mould in food, the articles concerned being bread (2), milk (1), tinned milk (1). Investigations were carried out and the representatives of the firms concerned were interviewed.

It was not considered necessary to institute legal proceedings but warnings were issued in the appropriate cases.

(d) Ice Cream

The total number of registrations in force for premises for the retail sale of ice cream was 91.

Fifty-two samples were submitted during the year for bacteriological examination and the results of the samples were as follows:-

Provisional Grade 1	40	Satisfactory
2	7	Satisfactory
3	5	Unsatisfactory
4	-	Unsatisfactory

The unsatisfactory samples were followed up and satisfactory results obtained.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT

Fourteen licences to slaughter animals were issued under the above Act during the year.

HOUSE DRAINAGE

Four existing houses were provided with septic tanks during the year.

158 new houses were connected to sewers and 13 to septic tanks.

The question of providing sewers to various parts of the District and improving disposal works where necessary was considered by the Council during the year.

WATER SUPPLY

MAINS

Three samples of mains water were submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination and were satisfactory.

PRIVATE WELLS AND SPRINGS

Eight samples were taken from wells and springs for bacteriological examination only, of which 5 were satisfactory and 3 unsatisfactory. Five samples were taken for bacteriological and chemical examination - 3 were satisfactory and 2 unsatisfactory. Two existing premises were connected to the water main in 1972.

NEW MAINS LAID

A total of 4,538 yards of new mains were laid by the various Water Undertakings within the District during the year. These extensions were principally to supply new development in various parishes and to replace obsolete mains which have now been abandoned.

DISINFESTATION

No houses were found to be in need of disinfestation.

All the Council refuse tips were periodically treated for flies and crickets where necessary by the Surveyor's Department.

RODENT CONTROL

A full time Rodent Operative is employed. A total of 466 infestations of private houses and business premises and 120 agricultural premises were successfully treated. A total of 1,194 visits were made.

During the year the Council continued to provide a free service for the destruction of rats and mice at private dwellings but in the case of business premises a charge was made as previously.

Forty-six contracts were made for the treatment of business and agricultural premises during the year and the income from this source amounted to £358.50.

Due to the co-operation of the public, possibly because of free service, 242 infestations were notified. These were in early stages and were thus only a minor nature but it seems essential to continue the service to prevent any large scale build-up.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

At the end of 1972, the number of premises registered was as follows:-

Offices	34
Retail Shops	69
Catering Establishments	32

I would point out that many of the shops in this District are family businesses, not employing staff, and therefore not subject to registration under the Act.

Offices at Factories subject to the Factories Act are registered with H.M. Inspector of Factories and not the Council.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1949

No case occurred during the course of the year where it was necessary to make arrangements for the burial, under the provisions of the above Act, of a person dying within the District.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The number of industrial premises is not large and as a result air pollution from factory chimneys did not present a problem.

NOISE ABATEMENT

Complaints were received during the year mainly of noise arising from industrial premises and Animal Boarding Establishments. Informal approach to the parties concerned achieved satisfactory results.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

Licences in respect of 19 boarding establishments were issued during the year.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Premises	Number of			
	Number on Register	Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	85	15	-	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises	-	-	-	-
	85	15	-	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

PARTICULARS (1)	No. of Cases in which defects found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	1	-

